

The Board of Pardons agreed last week to hold a special session on Saturday (to-morrow), to consider the petition of Kemble & Co. Monday the 26th, two days after that, is the time fixed by Judge Pearson for passing sentence, and that will be done unless the Board recommends and the Governor issues a pardon to prevent it.

The Committee on Commerce of the U. S. Senate has reported against confirming the nomination of the son of J. Madison Wells, as Surveyor of the Port of New Orleans—first, on the ground that it would be the same thing as nominating the "old man" himself; and second, because someone's merchandise whose names appear on his papers had telegraphed to the Committee that their signatures were forgeries.

In his petition to the Board of Pardons, William H. Kemble has the impudence to say, that the object aimed at by all criminal laws has been attained by his conviction, and that the ends of public justice do not demand the infliction of fine and imprisonment. We suppose there never yet was a defendant in a criminal proceeding, who would not say the same thing when the judge was about to pronounce sentence upon him. From the murderer down to the very lowest offender against the law, all would re-echo Kemble's plea and say as he does, "My conviction has satisfied the law, and no punishment is demanded." The members of the Pardon Board may recognize such a view of Kemble's case and so may Gov. Hoyt, but public justice and a violated constitution will enter their solemn protest against it.

The Democratic State Committee, at its meeting in Pittsburg on Thursday of last week, fixed upon Harrisburg as the place and Wednesday April 25th as the time for holding the State Convention. The time might very appropriately have been made a month later, to accommodate several other counties whose Democracy prefer that their delegates should be chosen by county conventions, instead of by county committees. But the Wallace men, at least it was so said, want an early convention, while the men who swear by Randall, favored a late one; and hence the result. The strong probabilities are that the convention agreed to by the Committee, will neither make nor mar the Presidential aspirations of Mr. Tilden, or any of the other candidates.

The war ship Constellation, selected by the Secretary of the Navy to convey provisions, etc., to the starving people of Ireland has received her full cargo, and was expected to sail from New York on yesterday. The New York Herald contributed one-fourth of the cargo required, Levi P. Morton, a New York merchant now representing one of the districts of that city in Congress, furnished another fourth, and a shipping merchant a like proportion, leaving only one-fourth to be supplied by other parties. If similar contributions are offered sufficient to freight another vessel, as will no doubt be done, the government expresses its willingness to furnish additional steamers to carry them to their destination free of charge. All this is an exhibition of timely and generous charity, of which the American people have a right to feel as proud as it is certain that oppressed and unfortunate Ireland will feel grateful beyond the power of words to express.

In the lower branch of Congress, on Friday last, the troublesome and much discussed question of the appointment and compensation of special deputy marshals was finally disposed of by the passage of an amendment to an appropriation bill, and if the Senate concurs, as we presume it will, the controversy, for the present at least, will be at an end. The amendment provides that hereafter the deputy marshals shall be appointed, not by the Marshal, but by the Judge of the Circuit Court of the United States for the district in which such marshals are to perform their duties, or by the District Judge in the absence of the Circuit Court Judge. It also provides that they shall be appointed in equal numbers from the different political parties, instead of all being of one political complexion, as has been the case heretofore, and that they shall be men of good character. If there must be special deputy marshals at elections when Congressmen are to be chosen (and it is only then that they can be appointed) this amendment is a reasonable protection against the infamous use of their power under the present law, by such marshals as James N. Kerns in Philadelphia and the notorious John L. Davenport in New York.

The correspondence between Senator Wallace and the Sub-Committee of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, in relation to the confirmation of James N. Kerns as Marshal of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, to which we briefly alluded last week, will be found elsewhere in our paper. This correspondence undoubtedly establishes the fact that Mr. Wallace was opposed to Kerns' confirmation when he was nominated, for the reason stated by him in his letter to Mr. Bayard, that Kerns was "a representative of the very worst elements of Philadelphia Republican politics," and from the request in his letter to Judge Thurman, Chairman of the Committee, "to reject the appointment." The only thing about the matter which vexed us at Mr. Wallace's was the dispatch from Washington announcing the confirmation of Kerns as having been unanimous, and that Senator Wallace had received all objections to it. This meant, of course that Mr. Wallace voted to confirm Kerns, which must surely be a mistake, for if the official record of the Senate would show that he had done so in the face of his letters to the Committee, it would end him politically in this State. Why cannot Mr. Wallace's confirmation be made complete by a proclamation of the vote?

Has a majority of the Democratic State Committee the right to instruct its Chairman to place upon the rolls of the State Convention the names of the delegates representing the McGowan or anti-Tilden faction of the Democratic party in Philadelphia, and to exclude therefrom the names of the Vaux or Tilden delegates, from the same county? This question has become important from the fact that at the meeting of the State Committee last week a resolution was adopted by a vote of 29 yeas to 14 nays, directing Mr. Miller, the Chairman, to place upon the rolls "the names of the delegates elected in Philadelphia on December 31, 1879, and certified to by Berrell, the President of the State Delegates' Convention."

This is a complete recognition of the right of the McGowan delegates to seats in the Convention. They claim that they (forty-six in number) were "regularly" elected on the 31st of last December—the Vaux men participated in the election—the McGowan faction elected thirty-eight of the delegates and the Vaux faction secured the remaining right. This is the allegation of McGowan and his followers, and the result was so announced by the papers when the election took place. What is meant by a "regular" election in Philadelphia is an "open" election in Philadelphia is an open and as yet unsolved question. Alderman Wm. McMillen, of the "bloody Fourth ward," may possibly know its meaning, but we do not. What he would call a "regular" election in his district might, however, be regarded outside of Philadelphia as a first-class riot—a sort of Donnybrook fair circus. It is now stated that Mr. Vaux and his friends are making preparations in the "regular" way, of course, to elect a full set of delegates, who will go to Harrisburg and claim their seats, and we suppose that this will be done. However much this Philadelphia Montague and Capulet quarrel is to be regretted, it is very plain to us that the State Committee has nothing to do with it, but that it is purely a question for the Convention itself.

Can anything be plainer than that a delegate who answers to the call when the Secretary of the Convention announces the districts he is there to represent, and whose right is not disputed, is entitled to his seat, and that where there is a contest both the claimant and contestant must stand aside until the controversy is settled. If the State Committee can dictate the names of the delegates from one county who shall take part in organizing the convention, it can do so for every county in the State, which would be an exercise of power not to be dreamed of for a moment. Every convention has the inherent right to judge of the election of those who claim membership in it, and when that right is surrendered a convention abdicates its highest function.

WASHINGTON is thoroughly shaken up by a social earthquake. Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood, the female, or blackmail lawyer of that city, as the case may be, for some time past has been devoting herself to the collection of scandalous facts about certain Senators and members of Congress. She appears to be doing quite a flourishing business, nasty though it is, but such as a strong-minded woman who unsexes herself to play the role of attorney would do to be engaged in. She is contended for by John Raymond of Atlanta, Georgia, who has been in Washington for several weeks past for the purpose of seeing what comfort in the shape of money, she can extract through Mrs. Lockwood's legal abilities out of Ben Hill, a member of the U. S. Senate from Georgia, whom Miss R. charges with the crime of seduction. Hill denies the soft impeachment, and affirms that the whole affair is a bold attempt to blackmail him for the mutual benefit of Jennie and her lawyer, Mrs. Lockwood. In addition to this leading case, Mrs. L. professes to have sufficient evidence now in her possession to convict two other Southern Senators, as well as a member of the House from each of the following States: Virginia, Ohio, Illinois and Mississippi—six in all—of the same offense which the Atlanta woman charges against Hill. This is certainly a good beginning, and speaks well for Mrs. Lockwood's enterprise and skill in her profession. She is said to be a woman of more than ordinary nerve, and if she is true that her side of the cases is the right side, then, like Davy Crockett, let her "go ahead."

The Democratic State Committee is composed of fifty members, being one from each Senatorial district. At the meeting of the Committee in Pittsburg, on Thursday last, twenty substitutes appeared and were admitted—one R. W. Guthrie, of Altoona, having been admitted to fill the place of D. F. Lloyd, of this place, the regular member of the Committee, but who could not attend. It appears from the published proceedings of the Committee that when the roll of the Committee was called by one of the Secretaries and the Thirty-fifth district (Cambria and Blair) was reached, Guthrie, who was then in the room, modestly announced that he lived in the district, and as Mr. Lloyd was not present, he asked to be substituted in his place. The Chairman then read a telegram from Mr. Lloyd stating that he had not substituted any one in his place, and after some discussion, Mr. Steinman, of Lancaster, moved that Guthrie be admitted, and that motion prevailed.

We are very certain that no other Democrat in this State ever got into a room where the State Committee was in session and took part in its deliberations, in as seamy a manner as Guthrie did in this instance. It was, of course, very kind and considerate in Guthrie to take care that the district should not be unrepresented, but in doing so it was hardly necessary for him to display an amount of cheek that would make any army man blush with very shame.

MR. FARNELL arrived at Queenstown, Ireland, on Sunday last, and was enthusiastically received on landing. He was entertained at dinner by the Farmers' Club, after which he took his departure by railroad for Dublin.

WHY THEY WANT TO BE PARDONED.—The Board of Pardons have agreed to hold a special session on Saturday, the 27th instant, for the purpose of hearing the arguments in the riot bribery cases. Notice was served on Thursday afternoon upon the District Attorney and Judge Pearson. The reasons accompanying the application for the pardons, after reviewing the act of 1841, which makes Philadelphia and Allegheny counties liable for mob damages, and which the reasons affirm to be an unjust discrimination against those localities, recites the history in brief of the introduction and progress of the Riot bill in the Legislature, and the statement attending every vote upon it, and says that because of the intense feeling against the act of 1841 Mr. Kemble, like many other citizens, did all he could for the passage of the Riot bill, in order that Allegheny and Philadelphia should have relief; that he was not personally interested in the passage of the bill, but only assisted, and that he is a citizen of the State, in creating a substantial support for it; that his testimony before the Investigating Committee had made him technically guilty of a violation of the act of 1841, and that an extraordinary story comes from New York of a woman who charges that she was robbed of her property by her nephew and then sent to jail as an habitual criminal.

La St. Louis, Mo., with a population of nearly half a million, the entire membership of the Protestant churches is said to be less than 20,000, or about one in twenty-five.

The length of the actual St. Gothard tunnel is nine miles and three hundred and seventy-seven yards, while that of the Mt. Cayuga is rather more than a mile and a half less.

A Durham cow belonging to Benjamin F. Hoyt, of Bradford, N. H., dropped a calf last week, which weighed 130 pounds, stood 2 feet 10 inches high and girthed 3 feet.

The draperies of the room in which the remains of the late Reverend Sexton, of Montreal, were lying, caught fire, and the house was burned down.

A dispatch from Halle, Saxony, says: In a collision between two passenger trains at the railway station here, several passengers were killed and many injured. Several railway carriages were broken to pieces.

The mysterious box of jewels, which has been in the vault of the Government Treasury at Washington for over thirty years, has just had its identity established and examination. Nobody has been able to explain, however, why McCulloch exposed the contents in a report to Congress, that it was part of the proceeds of a robbery at the Fort of Mifflin, Pa., in 1792.

NEWS AND OTHER NOTINGS.

There are about 5,000 justices of the peace in the State, to whom commissions are issued by the Governor. The State will realize about \$10,000 from the officers in the shape of fees for their commissions.

A Persia is about to establish a silk factory at Durham, North Carolina.

A woman who is six feet in height and big in proportion has been elected School Director in Middletown, N. Y.

It is estimated that the length of the Erie and Ontario roads under five years old have died of diphtheria since the last of last November.

Frank G. Falls, formerly a resident of Middletown, was shot and killed on Friday by the capturing of a skiff.

Auntie Graham, of West Chester, was 103 years old on Saturday, and died on the 24th inst. of an attack of cholera.

Senator Wallace and Marshal Kerns.

Following is the correspondence between Senator Wallace and Senators McDonald, Garland, Thurman and Bayard in relation to the confirmation of James N. Kerns as Marshal for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and to which reference was made in our last issue.

U. S. SENATE CHAMBER, WASHINGTON, March 18, 1886.—Dear Sir: In reply to your letter of the 12th inst. in relation to the confirmation of James N. Kerns as United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, I will thank you to furnish me with copies of the report of your committee on the subject of the confirmation of James N. Kerns, and if you feel at liberty to do so, to inform me of the action of the Committee in reporting favorably upon his nomination.

Very respectfully, yours, WILLIAM A. WALLACE. Reply of Senators McDonald and Garland.

WASHINGTON, March 18, 1886.—Hon. Wm. A. Wallace, U. S. Senator: In reply to your letter of the 12th inst. in relation to the confirmation of James N. Kerns as United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, we have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and to inform you that the report of your committee on the subject of the confirmation of James N. Kerns, and if you feel at liberty to do so, to inform me of the action of the Committee in reporting favorably upon his nomination.

Nothing could be more untrue!

Mr. JOHN WANAMAKER has precisely the same relations to Oak Hall as in the past.

WANAMAKER & BROWN is what it has been ever since Mr. Brown died, 12 years ago.

Mr. JOHN WANAMAKER personally watches over the faithful preparation of the stock of MEN'S AND BOYS' CLOTHING, and the conducting of the store. Nothing is allowed to pass his eye that is not straightforward and true to the interest of those who have patronized the house for 19 years and depend on its reliability.

From all appearances the year 1886 is to be the largest in sales ever known.

The READYMADE Department is Better Stocked! The BOYS' Department is Better Stocked!! The CUSTOM Department is Better Stocked!!! The SHIRT Department is Better Stocked!!!!

All this will be apparent on FIRST SIGHT! Please call whenever you can and look through this BEEHIVE of a Building, so busy with its 'hundreds of Workpeople and Customers. Do not forget that Clothing of the W. & B. make will stand better service than any other that can be got and that it does not cost any more (if as much) as other makes.

WANAMAKER & BROWN, OAK HALL, SIXTH AND MARKET STREETS, PHILADELPHIA.

CHAS. SIMON HAS JUST REMOVED TO THE Large and Elegant Store Room IN C. JAGGARD'S NEW BRICK BLOCK, 1306 ELEVENTH AVENUE, Between 13th and 14th Streets, 2 DOORS ABOVE EBERT'S MUSIC STORE, ALTOONA, PA.

NICHOLS, SHEPARD & CO. Battle Creek, Mich. THE STANDARD OF ECONOMY AND DURABILITY. THE STANDARD OF ECONOMY AND DURABILITY.